

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 9 through 17 with a clean version of the following amended paragraph in marked up form:

A generally hemispherically-shaped cutout or depression 22 is arranged on an upper surface 24 of the base plate 16, between the first and second corners 18 and 20 at the center of the base plate 16. An elongated first slot 26 is arranged adjacent the first corner 18 and adjacent the periphery of the hemispherically shaped cutout 22 thereat. An elongated second slot 28 is arranged at the second corner 20 of the base plate 16. The elongated second slot 28 is arranged between the periphery of the hemispherically-shaped cutout 22 and the second corner 20, as best represented in figure 3.

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 1 through 17 with a clean version of the following amended paragraph in marked up form:

The tip-shaper assembly 10 also includes a generally rectilinearly-shaped first guide 30 and a generally rectilinearly shaped second guide 32, as represented in figures 1, 2, 4 and 5, the guides 30 and 32 being arranged to be movable with respect to one another and the base plate 16. The first guide 30 and the second guide 32 each have outermost wall surfaces 34 which are in peripheral alignment within the periphery of the planar base plate 16. The first guide 30 has a lowermost surface 36 which is in sliding contact with the upper surface 24 of the planar base plate 16. The first guide 30 has a first corner 38 with a first tapped hole 40 therein. The first tapped hole 40 is in alignment with the elongated first slot ~~[[24]]~~ 26 in the first corner 18 of the planar base plate 16. The second guide 32 is correspondingly arranged, with a lowermost planar surface 42 in rubbing and abutted contact with the upper surface 24 of the planar base plate 16. The second guide 32 has a second corner 44 with a tapped hole 46 as shown in figure 5, through its lowermost surface 42, the tapped hole 46 being in longitudinal alignment with the elongated slot 28 in the second corner 20 of the planar base plate 16, as represented in figure 2.

Please replace the paragraph from page 13, line 19 through page 14, line 6 with a clean version of the following amended paragraph in marked up form:

A shoulder screw 50 is slidably arranged through the first elongated slot 26 and into threaded engagement with the tapped hole 40 at the first corner ~~[[18]]~~ 38 of the first guide 30. A second shoulder screw (not shown for clarity) is slidably arranged through the second elongated slot 28 in the second corner 20 of the planar base plate 16, and is in threaded engagement with that tapped hole 46 in the second corner ~~[[20]]~~ 44 in the second guide 32.